

Pierce County

WIC Facts 2003



% infants born
served by WIC

51.7%

WIC food dollar
contribution to
local economy

\$12,576,294

WIC foods purchased

774,897 gallons of milk

466,947 boxes of cereal

328,451 cartons of eggs



WIC serves

Total women and children served ----- 35,747

Infants and young children ----- 25,587

Pregnant, breastfeeding, and
postpartum women ----- 10,160

Diverse families

Caucasian ----- 54.5%

Hispanic ----- 15.9%

African American/Black ----- 16.4%

Asian/Pacific Islander ----- 9.2%

Native American/American Indian ----- 4.0%

Working families

Percent of WIC households with at least one
working family member ----- 65%

Families living in poverty

Percent of WIC households with income at or below
the federal poverty level¹ ----- 62%
(less than \$1,336 per month for a family of 3)

Military families

Number of women and children on WIC who serve
in the military or live in military households ----- 5,128

WIC attracts families to preventive health services

Over 153,503 times last year, WIC staff discussed health-related services with families and provided the information and support needed to access them successfully.

WIC agencies and sites

Community Health Care

Spanaway
Sumner
Tacoma

Mary Bridge Children's Hospital/ Multicare Health System

Fife	Milton
Gig Harbor	Tacoma
Vaughn	Madigan/Ft. Lewis

Franciscan Health System

Lakewood
Parkland
Tillicum

Puyallup Tribal Health Authority Tacoma

Good Samaritan Outreach Services

Buckley	Puyallup
Eatonville	Spanaway

SeaMar Community Health Centers

Tacoma

Statewide WIC Facts

- WIC served 48.2% of all infants born in Washington state
- WIC served 260,000 women and children
WIC provides nutritious foods, nutrition education, referrals and breastfeeding information.
- WIC contributed \$94.5 million to local economies
- WIC attracted families to preventive health services
In 2003, more than 19,400 calls to the Healthy Mothers, Healthy Babies statewide referral line were from families calling for WIC.² With this one call, they got help finding WIC and also received information about other preventive health services.
- WIC was a gateway to health-related services
Over 1.3 million times last year, WIC staff discussed these services with families and provided the information and support needed to access them successfully.
- WIC breastfeeding rate reached 83.2%³
Breastfeeding support and education are key parts of WIC because breastfed children have fewer infections and are less likely to develop chronic conditions like obesity and diabetes later in life.

¹Washington WIC Client Information Management System (CIMS), household income at or below 105% federal poverty level

²Healthy Mothers Healthy Babies Coalition of Washington State, Quarterly Report, 4th Quarter 2003

³"Mothers Survey, Ross Products Division, and Abbott Laboratories." © 2003 – Abbott Laboratories.